

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
McALLEN DIVISION

LIZELLE GONZALEZ) (
Plaintiff) (
) (
VS.) (CIVIL ACTION NO.
) (7:24-cv-00132
GOCHA ALLEN RAMIREZ,) (
ALEXANDRIA LYNN BARRERA,) (
RENE FUENTES, and STARR) (
COUNTY, TEXAS) (
Defendants) (

ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF
ROSITA ROCHA
JUNE 4, 2025
(Reported Remotely)

ORAL AND VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF ROSITA ROCHA,
produced as a witness at the instance of the
DEFENDANTS, taken in the above-styled and numbered
cause on JUNE 4, 2025, between the hours of 10:03 a.m.
and 2:53 p.m., reported stenographically by DONNA
McCOWN, Certified Court Reporter No. 6625, in and for
the State of Texas, in Rio Grande City, Texas, pursuant
to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any
provisions stated on the record or attached therein.

BRYANT & STINGLEY, INC.
Harlingen (956) 428-0755 **McAllen (956) 618-2366**

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ALSO PRESENT:

Rene Ortiz, Videographer, via Zoom
 Lizelle Gonzalez, via Zoom
 Gocha Allen Ramirez, via Zoom

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1 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Today is June 4, 2025.
2 This is the deposition of Rosita Rocha. It is
3 10:03 a.m. We're on the record.

4 THE COURT REPORTER: This deposition is
5 being conducted remotely. The witness is located in
6 Rio Grande City, Texas. My name is Donna McCown, Texas
7 Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 6625. I am
8 administering the oath and reporting the deposition
9 remotely by stenographic means from my residence in
10 Harlingen, Texas. Would counsel please state their
11 appearances, who they represent, and locations for the
10:03 12 record beginning with the taking attorney.

10:03 13 MS. ALBIN: Kelly Albin, and I represent
10:03 14 the defendants Starr County and the assistant district
10:03 15 attorney, assistant district attorney and Sheriff
10:03 16 Fuentes. I am located in Seabrook, Texas.

10:03 17 MS. KOVEL: Mariana Kovel, M-A-R-I-A-N-A,
10:03 18 Molly Kovel, K-O-V-E-L, and I'm located -- representing
10:04 19 the plaintiff and defending the deposition. And I'm
10:04 20 located in New York City.

10:04 21 ROSITA ROCHA,
10:04 22 having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

10:04 23 EXAMINATION

10:04 24 BY MS. ALBIN:

10:04 25 Q. Good morning, Ms. Rocha. My name is Kelly

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10:04 1 Albin, and I represent the defendants in a lawsuit
10:04 2 that's been filed by Lizelle Gonzalez. Do you
10:04 3 understand that?

10:04 4 A. Yes.

10:04 5 Q. Thank you. Are you represented by an attorney
10:04 6 today?

10:04 7 A. No, ma'am.

10:04 8 Q. All right. Can you please state your full name
10:04 9 for the record.

10:04 10 A. Rosita Mae Rocha.

10:04 11 Q. And you're currently at your home in Rio Grande
10:04 12 City?

10:04 13 A. Correct.

10:04 14 Q. All right. Who do you live in that home with?

10:05 15 A. My son.

10:05 16 Q. Do you have a sister named Becky Rocha?

10:05 17 A. Yes, I do.

10:05 18 Q. Does she live with you?

10:05 19 A. No, ma'am.

10:05 20 Q. Where does she live?

10:05 21 A. In Roma-Los Saenz, Texas.

10:05 22 Q. Thank you. What is her address?

10:05 23 A. To be honest with you, I don't -- I don't -- I
10:05 24 just get to her house. I don't know her address.

10:05 25 Q. Okay. Do you know what street she lives on?

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10:05 1 A. 7th Street.

10:05 2 Q. 7th Street in Roma, Texas?

10:05 3 A. Los Saenz, yes.

10:05 4 Q. I'm sorry. Is it -- I -- I couldn't quite
10:05 5 hear. Is it not Roma?

10:05 6 A. Los Saenz.

10:05 7 Q. What is her phone number?

10:05 8 A. I don't know it off the top of my head. Do you
10:05 9 want me to look for it on my phone?

10:05 10 Q. If you could, please.

10:05 11 A. Yes. It's 956-730-7184.

10:06 12 Q. Thank you. Do you know Lizelle Gonzalez, the
10:06 13 plaintiff in this case?

10:06 14 A. No, ma'am, I don't.

10:06 15 Q. Have you ever met her?

10:06 16 A. No, ma'am.

10:06 17 Q. Have you read the lawsuit that she's filed
10:06 18 against Starr County and the other defendants I named
10:06 19 earlier?

10:06 20 A. No, ma'am.

10:06 21 Q. Do you understand that she's listed you as a
10:06 22 witness in her case?

10:06 23 A. Yes, ma'am.

10:06 24 Q. Okay. Do you have any idea why you've been
10:06 25 identified as a witness?

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10:06 1 A. Yes, I do.

10:06 2 Q. Okay. What is your understanding of why you've
10:06 3 been listed as a witness?

10:06 4 A. Because I have information regarding of what
10:07 5 Mr. Gocha Allen Ramirez told me when that incident
10:07 6 happened.

10:07 7 Q. What information is that?

10:07 8 A. Well, should I start from the beginning? I've
10:07 9 known Gocha for 40 years. He was my friend for
10:07 10 40 years.

10:07 11 So he called me to ask me if -- how I
10:07 12 felt, because I also had had an abortion. Not an
10:07 13 induced one, ma'am. I had gone through a doctor.

10:07 14 He wanted to know how I felt
10:07 15 psychologically regarding my abortion.

10:07 16 Q. When was that call?

10:07 17 A. I don't recall the -- the day or the date, but
10:07 18 I know it was when it was -- when he had her in jail,
10:08 19 he called me and told me.

10:08 20 Q. How did you know she was in jail at the time of
10:08 21 the call?

10:08 22 A. Because he told me.

10:08 23 Q. Did you have any other conversations with
10:08 24 Mr. Ramirez about Ms. Gonzalez?

10:08 25 A. That one, just that one where he told me

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10:08 1 that -- well, first he wanted to ask me how I felt with
10:08 2 my abortion. I told him, "There's a difference.
10:08 3 You're telling me she had an induced abortion. I had
10:08 4 to go to a doctor. So there's a difference."

10:08 5 Well, he said, "Psychologically, what does
10:08 6 it do?"

10:08 7 "Where is she?"

10:08 8 And he said, "She's in jail."

10:08 9 So I said, "Gocha, get her out of jail,
10:08 10 psychologically. I went through -- through a doctor.
10:08 11 She did it -- an induced. She's got to be not going --
10:08 12 her head is not well."

10:08 13 And then he told me, "But you do know that
10:09 14 she induced."

10:09 15 I said, "Gocha, the laws have not
10:09 16 changed." Not because I'm an attorney, not because
10:09 17 I'm -- I know everything, but I follow that law because
10:09 18 I -- I had gone through an abortion and so did my
10:09 19 sister.

10:09 20 So he in turn told me -- I said, "Are you
10:09 21 okay?"

10:09 22 And he says, "Yes, Rosie. Abel and -- and
10:09 23 Alexandria are on top of everything, and they're
10:09 24 advising everything that's going on."

10:09 25 I said, "So then why call me?"

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10:09 1 And he says, "Well, because you've gone
10:09 2 through an abortion."

10:09 3 "So did Becky. You can call Becky too."

10:09 4 Q. Anything else in that conversation?

10:09 5 A. No.

10:09 6 Q. Did you exchange any text messages with
10:10 7 Mr. Ramirez at that time?

10:10 8 A. Regarding Lizelle?

10:10 9 Q. Yes.

10:10 10 A. No, ma'am.

10:10 11 Q. Was there a text message before the phone call?

10:10 12 A. No, ma'am.

10:10 13 Q. Was there a text message after the phone call
10:10 14 about that conversation?

10:10 15 A. No, ma'am.

10:10 16 Q. Are there any records that you're aware of that
10:10 17 would establish that that conversation happened other
10:10 18 than what you're -- other than your testimony about it?

10:10 19 A. No.

10:10 20 Q. You didn't -- you didn't text anybody else and
10:10 21 say, "Hey, Gocha just called me, and we talked about
10:10 22 this"?

10:10 23 A. No. Because Gocha's and I friendship was just
10:10 24 Gocha's and I friendship. Why was I going to share
10:10 25 anything to anybody else? Who? I mean, no.

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10:10 1 Q. Before today, have you told anybody else about
10:10 2 that conversation?

10:10 3 A. Yes.

10:10 4 Q. Who?

10:10 5 A. Cecilia Garza, Molly.

10:11 6 Q. When did you tell them about that conversation?

10:11 7 A. Cecilia, I told her since -- I believe it was
10:11 8 the late part of January.

10:11 9 Q. Did she call you, or did you call her?

10:11 10 A. No, ma'am. I reached out to them.

10:11 11 Q. You said "them." Was there someone other than
10:11 12 Cecilia in January?

10:11 13 A. Oh, I'm sorry. I -- I reached out to their law
10:11 14 office, Cecilia. I just spoke to Cecilia.

10:11 15 Q. Okay. And when -- just so the record is clear,
10:11 16 when we're talking about Cecilia, you're talking about
10:11 17 the plaintiff's attorney Ms. Garza who's here in
10:11 18 attendance today, correct?

10:11 19 A. Correct.

10:11 20 Q. Okay. And I think you said Molly a moment ago.
10:11 21 Are you talking about Ms. Kovel who's also here today?

10:11 22 A. Yeah, but I didn't speak to her until I think
10:11 23 it was -- I don't want to lie to you -- maybe May,
10:12 24 March, May.

10:12 25 Q. Of this year?

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10:12 1 A. Yes.

10:12 2 Q. Okay. Going back to the call that you made to
10:12 3 Ms. Garza's office. Who did you speak with in her
10:12 4 office?

10:12 5 A. Well, whoever answered the phone, which I don't
10:12 6 know what her name is, but I did ask for counsel of
10:12 7 Lizelle Gonzalez, and then I was transferred to Cecilia
10:12 8 Garza.

10:12 9 Q. Okay. And what did you talk about in that
10:12 10 conversation?

10:12 11 A. I had previously -- I had been with my sister,
10:12 12 because my sister's husband had passed away, so we -- I
10:12 13 had been at her house, and she had shown me some -- we
10:12 14 were talking about different things. We had not spoken
10:12 15 for ten years.

10:12 16 So we were talking about everything,
10:12 17 anything, and anything that made her comfortable. I
10:12 18 wanted to make her comfortable. And one of the things
10:12 19 she had told me was that, "Hey, did you know that Gocha
10:13 20 sent me a message about that girl" -- she said it in
10:13 21 Spanish. So I don't -- do you want me to say it
10:13 22 Spanish? Do you want me to say it in English? She
10:13 23 said --

10:13 24 Q. My -- go ahead.

10:13 25 A. Okay. So she said -- I said, "You have a

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10:13 1 message about Gocha regarding what?"

10:13 2 And she says, "Well" -- because you have
10:13 3 to understand Gocha told me he would not talk about --
10:13 4 to talk to her when -- while he was having an affair
10:13 5 with her, but -- and he would tell her she wasn't
10:13 6 talking to me. So we were, like, confused.

10:13 7 So I said, "What did he send you?"

10:13 8 And she said, "Well, he sent me a -- two
10:13 9 text messages regarding Lizelle Gonzalez."

10:13 10 And I'm like, "Why would he talk to you
10:13 11 about it?"

10:13 12 "Because no, we've been seeing each other,
10:13 13 and he sent -- he sent me those messages because I
10:13 14 reached out to him to see if he was doing okay." Okay.
10:13 15 So she says, "Let me -- let me -- let me show it to
10:14 16 you."

10:14 17 "Right now, Becky -- I mean, you're
10:14 18 worried about what you're going through right now."

10:14 19 Said, "No, no, I want to show you."

10:14 20 So I took the phone. She got the phone.
10:14 21 She showed me the messages, and I saw the messages. I
10:14 22 don't recall exactly what the message said. I only can
10:14 23 recall that he said that if this was going to bring him
10:14 24 down -- and I'm not saying the correct thing. I'm just
10:14 25 saying what I remember.

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10:14 1 If this is going to bring me down -- they
10:14 2 were talking about the Lizelle case. She told him,
10:14 3 "Hey, I'm here for you if you need me. I'm here for
10:14 4 you."

10:14 5 So he says, you know, "It's -- if it's --
10:14 6 if I'm going to go down, I have a good 43 years that
10:14 7 I've worked in this field, and if it's going to take me
10:14 8 down, so take me down."

10:14 9 So in the next message, there was a -- I
10:15 10 don't know if it's -- whatever attorneys have that --
10:15 11 it's a book, and then there was like a chapter, and it
10:15 12 said "murder" where he wrote it. And he -- well, what
10:15 13 it seemed to me. I'm not a professional on anything,
10:15 14 but what it seemed to me was as if he had gotten his
10:15 15 phone, taken a picture of the -- of the chapter, and it
10:15 16 said "murder" on the side.

10:15 17 So I said, "He's admitting to it? Why
10:15 18 would he send you this pic?"

10:15 19 And he says -- she says -- (Speaking
10:15 20 Spanish). It did say there before on the message, it
10:15 21 said she was reaching out to him. You know, they did
10:15 22 have a long-term relationship, 14 years. I mean, you
10:15 23 know, in those 14 years, I'm sure they know each other
10:15 24 that well like I know him.

10:15 25 And I was stunned, because when I spoke to

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10:16 1 Gocha, he sounded like he -- he wanted to make sure
10:16 2 about what I felt, but then he's telling Becky about
10:16 3 this thing about -- the messages about how he felt, yet
10:16 4 Becky had an abortion that -- Gocha. So I was -- I was
10:16 5 taken back.

10:16 6 Q. So that's -- and my question -- I appreciate
10:16 7 the information. My question was what did you and
10:16 8 Ms. Garza talk about.

10:16 9 And so I think your answer is you told her
10:16 10 about what you just testified to which was this
10:16 11 conversation you had with Becky; is that fair?

10:16 12 A. Yes, ma'am.

10:16 13 Q. Okay. Thank you. And when did your sister's
10:16 14 husband pass away?

10:16 15 A. January 10th, 2000 -- 2025.

10:17 16 Q. Did -- when you met with Ms. Garza, did you
10:17 17 ever meet with her in person or just over the phone?

10:17 18 A. No. I met with her in person.

10:17 19 Q. So it was first a phone call and then an office
10:17 20 visit?

10:17 21 A. No, no, not an office visit, ma'am. We went --
10:17 22 we met at Adobe -- Adobe restaurant.

10:17 23 Q. Did you provide her with any documents?

10:17 24 A. No, ma'am.

10:17 25 Q. Have you ever -- I'm sorry. Go ahead.

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13:59 1 was trying to fight those demons. He referred to an
14:00 2 attorney from here that he didn't want to be like him.
14:00 3 He didn't want to end it like him. David Garza, I
14:00 4 believe.

14:00 5 Q. Okay.

14:00 6 A. But that he was struggling. And I was his
14:00 7 friend. I was always trying to see the better. I
14:00 8 tried my best, and Gocha knows. Even up to May I was
14:00 9 still defending him. And I remember that he told me,
14:00 10 "This loyalty shit is getting old." It's on text.

14:00 11 Q. Do you believe that he was using cocaine after
14:01 12 he was elected to district attorney?

14:01 13 A. Yes, ma'am.

14:01 14 Q. And do you believe he was using you said
14:01 15 generic Xanax, nonprescribed, after he was elected
14:01 16 district attorney?

14:01 17 A. Yeah. I told him on text, I said, "Gocha, get
14:01 18 a prescription, Gocha. Don't trust Dinora."

14:01 19 And he said, "I am. I will. I have."
14:01 20 Again, I was protecting him. I know what my mother is
14:01 21 capable of.

14:01 22 Q. You also alluded to hydro in your deposition.
14:01 23 Can you tell me what hydro means?

14:01 24 A. That's a strong marijuana that they smoke. I
14:01 25 mean they, because Becky also smokes. And he offered

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14:02 1 Becky -- in text messages she -- that she -- that she
14:02 2 sent me, she says he says, you know, something to the
14:02 3 effect of he had got some hydro for us. "Are you ready
14:02 4 for tonight, baby," or something like that.

14:02 5 Q. Sorry. So --

14:02 6 A. And here I thought he told me not to talk to
14:02 7 Becky. So when I saw the messages, I was like -- I'm
14:02 8 not understanding why he's lying about this.

14:03 9 Q. You okay?

14:03 10 A. Yes. It's not doing me any good. I mean
14:03 11 this -- this.

14:03 12 Q. Okay. I won't take too much longer. I'm just
14:03 13 trying to --

14:03 14 A. No, no, no, it's --

14:03 15 Q. -- cleaning some stuff up. Okay?

14:03 16 A. I just want to finish this thing.

14:03 17 Q. I know. I know. You need to get to sleep.
14:03 18 Okay.

14:03 19 So do you know if Mr. Ramirez ever sought
14:03 20 treatment for addiction?

14:03 21 A. No, I don't know. He said that he would.

14:03 22 Q. Okay. And you mentioned Orlando, I believe, in
14:03 23 your testimony talking about the Gazca case.

14:03 24 A. Velasquez, yes.

14:03 25 Q. Orlando Velasquez?

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14:03 1 A. Yeah. When I talked to Gocha, when I told him,
14:04 2 I said, "Call me," because I didn't want to tell him --
14:04 3 text messages to me are so -- one word can go this way
14:04 4 or that way. So I'd rather talk. I'm a talker. I'm
14:04 5 not -- the messages, yes, I can message, but when it's
14:04 6 something that big, I'm not going to want to text.

14:04 7 So when he called me, he says -- I said,
14:04 8 "Gocha, do you know that Rene Vera is on the jury --
14:04 9 the jury?"

14:04 10 He says, "Yes."

14:04 11 I said, "Do you know that y'all did three
14:04 12 turns?"

14:04 13 He said, "Yes." And I know this because
14:04 14 Martie told me.

14:04 15 Q. So just to pause, who was on the jury?

14:04 16 A. Rene Vera, Jr.

14:04 17 Q. Okay. And that was someone who knew
14:04 18 Alexandria --

14:04 19 A. Yes.

14:04 20 Q. -- Barrera?

14:04 21 A. He's -- he's -- Orlando Velasquez is best
14:04 22 friend. Orlando is partner, husband to Alexandria.

14:04 23 Q. Okay. And does he work in the court system?

14:05 24 A. He is the district clerk.

14:05 25 Q. Okay. So he would have been responsible for

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14:05 1 the turns of the wheel?

14:05 2 A. Yes. From what I was able to get from Martie
14:05 3 was that Hilda was there and saw it unfold in front of
14:05 4 her.

14:05 5 Q. Okay.

14:05 6 A. And she was upset about it. And she told me
14:05 7 that -- I mean, when I told him, I said, "Gocha, why
14:05 8 are you letting this shit? I mean, do you know about
14:05 9 it?"

14:05 10 He says, "Yeah, Rosie, but we did three
14:05 11 turns because of the fact that we were not able to get
14:05 12 all the jurors."

14:05 13 I said, "That's odd, because Rene Vera
14:05 14 came out on the third."

14:06 15 Q. Okay.

14:06 16 A. And then he tells me -- is that -- do you want
14:06 17 to know? Should I stop?

14:06 18 Q. You can stop. I think we've -- I just wanted
14:06 19 to know who Orlando was because I -- I didn't hear you
14:06 20 say.

14:06 21 A. Oh, I'm sorry.

14:06 22 Q. That's okay.

14:06 23 A. He's the district clerk.

14:06 24 Q. Okay. So moving on to the conversation you had
14:06 25 about Lizelle on the phone that you testified about.

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14:06 1 Okay? How did that conversation start? He -- he
14:06 2 called you?

14:06 3 A. He called -- he called me to ask me about how I
14:06 4 felt with my abortion.

14:06 5 Q. Okay. And -- I'm so sorry.

14:06 6 Did he tell you how he had found out or
14:06 7 learned of Lizelle's abortion?

14:06 8 A. No. He just told me, "Rosie, when you had your
14:07 9 abortion, how did you feel?"

14:07 10 "Like what do you mean? Like
14:07 11 psychologically?"

14:07 12 "How did you feel?"

14:07 13 "My abortion was through a doctor. It was
14:07 14 not induced. Very different. Psychologically you're
14:07 15 not there -- there, but not there."

14:07 16 Q. And some years ago while you were still talking
14:07 17 to your sister, did she have an abortion?

14:07 18 A. Yes. She had an abortion. I set it up. It
14:07 19 was Gocha's child, and Gocha had asked Becky not to
14:07 20 have -- not to have the child.

14:07 21 Q. Was he married?

14:07 22 A. Yes.

14:08 23 Q. And did he pay for the abortion?

14:08 24 A. Yes. I scheduled the appointment with
14:08 25 Landrum-Chester.

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14:08 1 Q. And what did you do after the appointment?

14:08 2 A. I -- well, I took Becky, and she came out out
14:08 3 of it, and Gocha was waiting for us outside, and he,
14:08 4 you know, hugged her, told her everything would be
14:08 5 okay. He took us to Red Lobster.

14:08 6 And Becky was in pain. Honestly, if you
14:08 7 haven't gone through it, you wouldn't know, but she --
14:08 8 her mind was somewhere else, and he was spoon
14:08 9 fooding -- spoon-feeding her.

14:08 10 Q. How old was she? Do you know?

14:08 11 MS. ALBIN: I'm going to object to this
14:08 12 line of question. Becky Rocha is set to be deposed
14:09 13 next. I'm not sure what that topic has to do with the
14:09 14 immunity issue or any of the questions that I've asked
14:09 15 today.

14:09 16 MS. KOVEL: I think the knowledge that
14:09 17 Mr. Ramirez had about whether or not abortion was legal
14:09 18 is relevant to his knowing -- his state of mind in --
14:09 19 and whether or not he knew that what Lizelle was
14:09 20 prosecuted for was categorically not a crime.

14:09 21 MS. ALBIN: Well, she's already --
14:09 22 Ms. Rocha has testified that Becky had an abortion and
14:09 23 Gocha knew about it, so I don't know what more --

14:09 24 MS. KOVEL: I just asked how old she was.

14:09 25 MS. ALBIN: Right. And I -- I don't know

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14:09 1 how that's relevant to whether or not he knew abortions
14:09 2 were legal or --

14:09 3 MS. KOVEL: I think a lot of your
14:10 4 questions, Kelly, were not relevant to whether or not,
14:10 5 you know, your client has immunity. I -- I think we're
14:10 6 talking about his credibility and his character, okay,
14:10 7 and I think --

14:10 8 MS. ALBIN: Which has nothing to do with
14:10 9 immunity.

14:10 10 MS. KOVEL: -- which has a lot to do with
14:10 11 whether his statements on the record are credible.

14:10 12 MS. ALBIN: It has nothing to do with
14:10 13 immunity, and it's not just his statements. They're
14:10 14 corroborated by plenty of other people. But in any
14:10 15 event, the age of a person with whom there's a claim he
14:10 16 was affiliated and had an abortion, I don't see how
14:10 17 that's relevant to this case.

14:10 18 MS. KOVEL: You've made your objection.
14:10 19 I'm really trying not to go too much longer. I believe
14:10 20 the witness is not feeling well, and I'd like to just
14:10 21 keep going. I'm not going to keep going very long on
14:10 22 this -- that was my last question on the topic.

14:11 23 A. I'm okay. I just want to finish this off.

14:11 24 Q. Okay.

14:11 25 A. If you have -- I'm holding the vomit, and it's

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14:11 1 probably making me very bloated.

14:11 2 Q. Okay.

14:11 3 A. Once we're off, I'll probably end up at the
14:11 4 hospital. I'm fine.

14:11 5 Q. Let me ask you when you were talking to him on
14:11 6 the phone when Lizelle was in jail, did you mention
14:11 7 Becky's abortion?

14:11 8 A. He said -- when he called me and asked me how
14:11 9 it felt, is that what you're asking?

14:12 10 Q. Yes. Did -- did you mention Becky's abortion?

14:12 11 A. Yes. I said, "You should know. Becky went
14:12 12 through one with your child."

14:12 13 MS. ALBIN: I'm going to object because
14:12 14 the witness has just given two different answers to
14:12 15 that same question.

14:12 16 A. I thought I had said it.

14:12 17 Q. Did he talk about -- in the phone conversation
14:12 18 that you had with him, did he talk about -- you said
14:12 19 that he said that Ms. Barrera and Mr. Villarreal were
14:12 20 in touch with him about Lizelle's case?

14:12 21 A. Correct.

14:12 22 Q. And what was your understanding of what that
14:12 23 meant, like in touch with him?

14:12 24 A. Honestly, I just -- I figured that Gocha was
14:13 25 trying to get it out, because you all -- none of you

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14:13 1 would understand the friendship that we had. I don't
14:13 2 care who you are.

14:13 3 We had a friendship, a bond. Besides sex
14:13 4 and everything, there was a bond. He wanted to know
14:13 5 what it felt, and he said, "I have Alexandria and Abel
14:13 6 Villarreal -- Alexandria Barrera -- he didn't say
14:13 7 Alexandria Barrera, Abel Villarreal.

14:13 8 He said, "I have Alexandria, Abel," you
14:13 9 know, keeping him up with what they were doing.

14:13 10 Q. But they were notifying him about the
14:13 11 prosecution?

14:13 12 MS. ALBIN: Objection, leading.

14:13 13 Q. Do you know if -- did you -- do you know if
14:13 14 they -- withdrawn.

14:13 15 Do you know if he instructed them to
14:14 16 arrest her, arrest Lizelle?

14:14 17 A. No.

14:14 18 Q. And do you know if -- do you know if
14:14 19 Mr. Ramirez had any contact with the jail while she was
14:14 20 arrested?

14:14 21 A. From what I understand -- from what I
14:14 22 understood from him, he said he's in -- I told him,
14:14 23 "Is -- where is she?"

14:14 24 And he said, "She's in jail."

14:14 25 And I'm like, "Dude, get her out. It's

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14:14 1 going to fuck up her mind." I said, "Get her out." I
14:15 2 know I went through it, and I went with a doctor, and I
14:15 3 was able to walk out. And I'm telling you this. I
14:15 4 didn't tell him that. I was able to walk out, and my
14:15 5 mind was somewhere else. I said, "Get her out."

14:15 6 Q. And what did he say in response to that?

14:15 7 A. I vividly remember -- vividly remember that he
14:15 8 said that -- that she was going to come out. I said,
14:15 9 "Get her out as soon as possible."

14:15 10 Q. Okay. How do you think the media around the
14:15 11 case affected him? Was he upset?

14:15 12 A. Oh, Gocha doesn't like social media. He
14:16 13 doesn't like for nobody to post things. He despises
14:16 14 that, because I remember that one time he told me,
14:16 15 "Have you ever gotten on Political Lies and Ties?"

14:16 16 And I'm like, "No. Dude, there are so
14:16 17 many hate pages."

14:16 18 "Dude, don't get into it. Don't get into
14:16 19 it." And I'm like -- of course you know what happens
14:16 20 when somebody tells you don't get into it. I went into
14:16 21 it.

14:16 22 And that's when I saw that Becky was
14:16 23 posting things about Gocha, about his personal life.

14:16 24 Q. On social media?

14:16 25 A. Yes.

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14:16 1 Q. You said that you spoke to Martie Garcia-Vela
14:16 2 at various times. Did you ever speak to her about you
14:17 3 and Becky's knowledge about the Lizelle Gonzalez
14:17 4 matter?

14:17 5 A. No. Because we were not speaking then. Becky
14:17 6 and I started speaking in January.

14:17 7 Q. I meant this year. After you and Becky
14:17 8 reconciled, did you speak to Martie about -- about this
14:17 9 case?

14:17 10 A. No.

14:17 11 Q. Did you ever ask her for advice about finding a
14:17 12 lawyer for this case?

14:17 13 A. I called her yesterday.

14:17 14 Q. Okay.

14:17 15 A. She didn't answer.

14:17 16 Q. Do you know if she ever talked to Mr. Ramirez
14:17 17 about you or your sister?

14:17 18 MS. ALBIN: Objection, calls for
14:17 19 speculation.

14:17 20 A. I can answer?

14:17 21 Q. Uh-huh.

14:17 22 A. I don't have concrete information, but I feel
14:17 23 that she has.

14:17 24 Q. And you testified that you were anxious because
14:18 25 you -- there are people who are following you in cars

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14:18 1 outside your house?

14:18 2 A. My house, the gym, the doctor.

14:18 3 Q. And why do you think Mr. Ramirez would order
14:18 4 that to happen?

14:18 5 A. I know Gocha well enough to know that when he
14:18 6 gets pissed off, he's going to do -- he's going to try
14:18 7 to do anything that he can.

14:18 8 Q. And why would he be pissed off, as you say?

14:18 9 MS. ALBIN: Objection, calls for
14:18 10 speculation.

14:18 11 A. The loyalty. It was -- there was no loyalty
14:18 12 after -- when he called me November and he told me his
14:18 13 wife was going to be out and that he would sneak me in
14:19 14 to the courthouse and then call again. I think he
14:19 15 already knew that I was not interested.

14:19 16 I took the call because it was not his
14:19 17 phone number. It was the -- it was the landline for
14:19 18 the County, which everybody uses, which is 81 -- I know
14:19 19 it's 81 something. And so it could have been anybody,
14:19 20 but it was Gocha. And he said, "I'm going to be
14:19 21 calling you from here from now on. She should leave by
14:19 22 Thursday, and we can meet here."

14:19 23 Q. Was it your understanding that he wanted to
14:19 24 have sex with you?

14:19 25 A. Yes.

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14:19 1 MS. ALBIN: Objection, speculation and
14:19 2 leading.

14:19 3 Q. How confident are you, based on your
14:20 4 conversation, that he was inviting you to meet for sex?

14:20 5 MS. ALBIN: Objection, leading.

14:20 6 A. 99.9 percent that he wanted.

14:20 7 Q. And is that -- is that confidence based on
14:20 8 knowing him for 40 years?

14:20 9 A. Correct.

14:20 10 Q. And having a relationship with him for 40 years
14:20 11 that occasionally involved sexual relationships?

14:20 12 A. Yes.

14:20 13 Q. Okay. So you knew when he was talking about
14:20 14 sex what he would sound like?

14:20 15 A. Yes.

14:20 16 MS. ALBIN: Objection, speculation.

14:20 17 Q. Okay.

14:20 18 MS. ALBIN: That's ridiculous.

14:20 19 Q. And was it your understanding that he was
14:20 20 asking you to have sex in his office?

14:20 21 A. Yes.

14:20 22 MS. ALBIN: Objection, speculation and
14:20 23 leading.

14:20 24 A. I have a text message that he sends -- sends me
14:20 25 that he says, "I can sneak you into the -- to the DA's

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14:20 1 office and we can fuck."

14:20 2 Q. So --

14:20 3 A. That day I was -- I was sick with allergies,
14:21 4 and I told him, "You know what? I'm really sick with
14:21 5 the allergies, Gocha."

14:21 6 "Oh, that's a lot of -- there's a lot of
14:21 7 that going on." And I didn't go.

14:21 8 Q. When do you believe he came angry at you?

14:21 9 MS. ALBIN: Objection, speculation.

14:21 10 A. After -- after I showed him in November the
14:21 11 whole side of me, that phone call when he called me. I
14:21 12 didn't -- Gocha has a way of talking and I have a way
14:21 13 of talking about sex, and I didn't talk about sex.

14:21 14 I didn't say, "Hey, you know, I'm horny.
14:21 15 Hey, I want you. Hey."

14:21 16 He would tell me, "Hey, let me see the
14:21 17 twins. Show me -- send me a picture of the twins."

14:21 18 And I said -- that was not what was -- the
14:22 19 conversation -- there was no conversation regarding
14:22 20 sex, but I knew what he wanted, because that's -- I
14:22 21 know Gocha, but I didn't -- I didn't -- I didn't follow
14:22 22 with -- I just said, "She's going to be out?"

14:22 23 "She," who is his wife, "is going to be
14:22 24 out next week, and we'll meet on Thursday. I'm going
14:22 25 to be calling you from this number."

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14:22 1 And I was like, "uh-huh," you know, like
14:22 2 uninterested, and that was the last time we spoke.

14:22 3 Q. And you think just based on that that he would
14:22 4 have you followed?

14:22 5 A. Because of the fact the way that I would carry
14:22 6 myself. I said, "Hey, what's up? You want to meet or
14:22 7 what?"

14:22 8 And he says, "Yeah. Let's meet. Let's
14:22 9 fuck. Let's do this, you know."

14:22 10 Q. But now you think he's angry at you?

14:22 11 A. Oh, yeah.

14:22 12 MS. ALBIN: Objection, leading;
14:23 13 speculation.

14:23 14 MS. KOVEL: I'm asking her what she
14:23 15 thinks. Whether or not he's angry at her is not the
14:23 16 question. I'm asking her if she thinks he's angry at
14:23 17 her.

14:23 18 MS. ALBIN: Okay. And I made my
14:23 19 objection.

14:23 20 MS. KOVEL: It's not speculation.

14:23 21 Q. Okay.

14:23 22 A. I know he's upset at me.

14:23 23 Q. And why? Why is he upset? Why --

14:23 24 A. Because I told --

14:23 25 MS. ALBIN: Objection, speculation.

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14:23 1 Q. Is it because of the grievance?

14:23 2 MS. ALBIN: Objection, leading.

14:23 3 A. It's apparent. He had told me when -- when he
14:23 4 was on whatever probation, I felt bad for him, but then
14:23 5 when didn't I feel bad for him.

14:23 6 Up until today that I decided there was no
14:23 7 more loyalty towards him. He disrespected me and my
14:23 8 son. Didn't give a fuck about him. Blaming my son for
14:24 9 shit that he didn't do. Come on, Gocha. Come on. You
14:24 10 remember -- remember him telling me one time, "Friend,
14:24 11 you know so much about the politicos you can write a
14:24 12 book."

14:24 13 And I said, "Should I include you there?"

14:24 14 He said, "I'm not a politico yet."

14:24 15 How many times did I discourage him to run
14:24 16 for city? Many. And I would see him stand there. I
14:24 17 felt sorry for him. That was not his place. And this
14:24 18 is just me. I remember him telling me, "Write a book.
14:24 19 You know so much." What did I do with the Gene Falcon
14:25 20 case? He knows.

14:25 21 Q. Is that the sheriff before Mr. Fuentes, Sheriff
14:25 22 Fuentes?

14:25 23 A. Before Ray Guerra, before Rene. He was his
14:25 24 attorney.

14:25 25 Q. Sorry. Mr. Ramirez was his attorney?

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14:25 1 A. Gene Falcon's attorney. He took so many hits.
14:25 2 I slept with the FBI agent so this shit would be over.
14:25 3 And he knows it. You don't know how much shit I've
14:25 4 been through, and he knows that.

14:25 5 Q. Rosie, I'm going to -- I'm going to wrap this
14:25 6 up. I think you've been through enough.

14:25 7 A. Just know this. I'm not leaving because --
14:26 8 because of anything. I'm not -- I'm feeling sick.

14:26 9 Q. I know.

14:26 10 A. And Gocha meant a lot to me as a friend, but to
14:26 11 go there and say things about me as in -- he might say
14:26 12 I'm a piece of shit to the world, but to my son. I'm
14:26 13 his only and he's my only. Don't talk about my son
14:26 14 because I know you wouldn't want me to talk about his
14:26 15 and I have messages where he sent about his son going
14:26 16 to juvenile, and I've never said anything like that to
14:26 17 no one.

14:26 18 Leave my son alone. What the fuck. I
14:26 19 didn't talk about his kids. And yes, I feel that I'm
14:26 20 going to get more retaliation. It's not going to end.
14:26 21 I'm lawless here in Starr County.

14:27 22 Q. What do you mean by "lawless"?

14:27 23 A. You think Rene is going to send the sheriff's
14:27 24 officer over here. I called him -- I called him about
14:27 25 a month ago because my dog was lost. My dog, somebody

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14:27 1 took it. I told him that the neighbor was causing
14:27 2 problems. They didn't come. They didn't come to take
14:27 3 a report.

14:27 4 Q. So you mean you don't have the support of law
14:27 5 enforcement --

14:27 6 A. No.

14:27 7 Q. -- when you say "lawless." Are you afraid?

14:27 8 A. All the time, but why should I? I have to
14:27 9 remind myself I went through domestic violence, and I
14:27 10 can go through this, but I was more loyal to him than
14:27 11 to my own husband, to my ex-husband, more loyal to him
14:27 12 than this piece of shit that made me -- made me marry
14:27 13 him. I was more loyal to him. And he knows that.

14:28 14 Q. Okay. I'm just looking at my notes to make
14:28 15 sure I didn't scribble anything down. Okay?

14:28 16 MS. KOVEL: Are you going to have
14:28 17 redirect, Kelly?

14:28 18 A. I feel any retaliation at this point from today
14:28 19 forward --

14:28 20 Q. Yes.

14:28 21 A. -- I will contact authorities above Gocha,
14:28 22 because I fear for my son, I fear for myself, and I
14:28 23 fear for my sister.

14:28 24 Leave my son alone, Gocha. Leave him
14:28 25 alone, dude. I've never did shit -- protect your ass.

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
McALLEN DIVISION

LIZELLE GONZALEZ)(
Plaintiff)(
)(
VS.)(CIVIL ACTION NO.
)(7:24-cv-00132
GOCHA ALLEN RAMIREZ,)(
ALEXANDRIA LYNN BARRERA,)(
RENE FUENTES, and STARR)(
COUNTY, TEXAS)(
Defendants)(

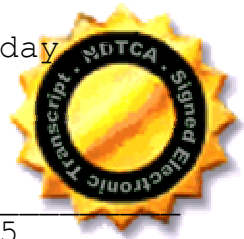
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, DONNA McCOWN, Certified Court Reporter, certify that the witness, ROSITA ROCHA, was duly sworn by me, and that the deposition transcript is a true and correct record of the testimony given by the witness remotely on JUNE 4, 2025, and that the deposition was reported by me remotely in stenograph and was subsequently transcribed under my supervision.

Pursuant to Federal Rule 30(e)(2), a review of the transcript was requested.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor a relative or employee of such attorney or counsel, nor am I financially interested in the action.

WITNESS MY HAND on this the _____ day
_____, 2025.



Donna McCown
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